

A. W. AUNER, SONG PUBLISHER & PRINTER,
Tenth and Race Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

MOTHER KEEPS THE GATE LOCKED NOW

I know a lovely girl, her name is Katie Lee,
She's charming as can be, she's all the world to me;
But now we are apart, to see her I'm denied,
While all the day I sigh to clasp her to my side
Each night we used to meet, down by the gate,
And happy then the hours would fly away;
But now when round the house I fondly watch and wait,
I sadly hear my Katie say—

CHORUS.

Mother keeps the gate locked now,
To see you, love, I don't know how;
I must stay in the house, as quite as a mouse,
For mother keeps the gate locked now.

We used to meet each night, it was a happy spell,
The moon was shining bright, while tales of love I'd tell
Now Katie oft would sigh, "Oh, what will mother say?
She thinks I'm at the gate, and I'm so far away"
One night when we returned from a delightful stroll,
Her mother's rage I could not pacify;
I quickly went away, but, Katie wrote to say,
That she would come and meet me on the sly.

Mother keeps the, &c.

Now Katie stays at home, and I'm in distress,
I wander all alone, without my happiness.
I try the gate to climb, but there's a dog within,
That growls at me and barks, and makes an awful din;
Poor Katie mopes all day, oh, cruel parents they,
To treat my little girl so shamefully;
We'll run away some night, and get married ere daylight,
And then no more will Katie say to me.

Mother keeps the, &c.

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